

In the Claims:

Please have the Claims depicted as follows for purposes of Appeal:

1. (Withdrawn) A radiation curable hot melt composition that can be cured by radiation only to a non-tacky coating, said composition comprising:
  - a) 20 to 100 wt.% of a radiation curable resin or a mixture of radiation curable resins having a viscosity in the range from 15 to 10,000 mPas in the temperature range from 40 to 150°C,
  - b) 0 to 50 wt.% of a hydroxyfunctional resin or oligomer or a mixture of hydroxyfunctional resins or oligomers,
  - c) 0 to 10 wt.% of a photoinitiator,
  - d) 0 to 50 wt.% of fillers and/or additives, and
  - e) 0 to 40 wt.% of pigment,wherein the total amount of components a) to e) adds up to 100 wt.%.
2. (Withdrawn) The radiation curable hot melt composition of claim 1, wherein the radiation curable resin or the mixture of radiation curable resins has a  $T_g$  below 0°C.
3. (Withdrawn) The radiation curable hot melt composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is a coating composition comprising a radiation curable resin or a mixture of radiation curable resins with a viscosity in the range from 15 to 4,000 mPas in the temperature range from 40 to 150°C.
4. (Withdrawn) The radiation curable hot melt composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is a putty composition comprising a radiation curable resin or a mixture of radiation

curable resins with a viscosity in the range from 3,000 to 10,000 mPas in the temperature range from 40 to 150°C.

5. (Withdrawn) The radiation curable hot melt composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition comprises a polyesteracrylate resin.

6. (Previously Presented) A process for coating a substrate to provide a non tacky protective coating or film thereon, said process comprising the steps of:

- i) providing a radiation curable hot melt composition comprising
  - a) 20 to 100 wt.% of a radiation curable resin or a mixture of radiation curable resins having a viscosity in the range from 15 to 10,000 mPas in the temperature range from 40 to 150°C,
  - b) 0 to 50 wt.% of a hydroxyfunctional resin or oligomer or a mixture of hydroxyfunctional resins or oligomers,
  - c) 0 to 10 wt.% of a photoinitiator,
  - d) 0 to 50 wt.% of fillers and/or additives, and
  - e) 0 to 40 wt.% of pigment, wherein the total amount of components a) to e) adds up to 100 wt.%,
- ii) heating said hot melt composition to a temperature in the range from 40 to 150°C,
- iii) applying said hot melt composition to the substrate in the form of a coating or thin film, and
- iv) curing said hot melt to a non-tacky coating solely by exposing the coated substrate to electromagnetic radiation having a wavelength  $\lambda \leq 500$  nm.

7. (Original) The process according to claim 6, wherein the substrate is a heat-sensitive substrate.

8. (Original) The process according to claim 7, wherein the substrate contains cellulose and/or plastic and the hot melt composition is heated to a temperature in the range from 40 to 100°C.
9. (Original) The process according to claim 6, wherein the hot melt composition comprises a resin or a mixture of resins with a  $T_g$  below 0°C.
10. (Original) The process according to claim 6, wherein the hot melt composition comprises a polyesteracrylate resin.
11. (Previously Presented) A process for coating a substrate to provide a non tacky protective coating or film thereon, said process comprising the steps of:
- [iii)] i) providing a radiation curable hot melt composition comprising a) 20 to 100 wt.% of a radiation curable resin or a mixture of radiation curable resins having a viscosity in the range from 15 to 10,000 mPas in the temperature range from 40 to 150°C, b) 0 to 50 wt.% of a hydroxyfunctional resin or oligomer or a mixture of hydroxyfunctional resins or oligomers, c) 0 to 10 wt.% of a photoinitiator, d) 0 to 50 wt.% of fillers and/or additives, and e) 0 to 40 wt.% of pigment, wherein the total amount of components a) to e) adds up to 100 wt.%,
  - [iv)] ii) heating said hot melt composition to an application temperature in the range from 40 to 90°C,
  - iii) applying said hot melt composition to the substrate in the form of a coating or thin film, and
  - [v)] iv) curing said hot melt by exposing the coated substrate to electromagnetic radiation having a wavelength  $\lambda \leq 500$  nm.

12. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim [6] 11, wherein the substrate is a heat-sensitive substrate.

13. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim [7] 12, wherein the substrate contains cellulose and/or plastic and the hot melt composition is heated to a temperature in the range from 40 to 100°C.

14. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim [6] 11, wherein the hot melt composition comprises a resin or a mixture of resins with a  $T_g$  below 0°C.

15. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim [6] 11, wherein the hot melt composition comprises a polyesteracrylate resin.

16. (Previously Presented) A process for coating a substrate to provide a non tacky protective coating or film thereon, said process comprising the steps of:

[v)] i) providing a radiation curable hot melt composition comprising a) 40 to 90 wt.% of an ultraviolet radiation curable polyester acrylate resin having a viscosity in the range from 15 to 10,000 mPas in the temperature range from 40 to 150°C, b) 0 to 50 wt.% of a hydroxyfunctional resin or oligomer or a mixture of hydroxyfunctional resins or oligomers, c) 0 to 10 wt.% of a photoinitiator, d) 0 to 50 wt.% of fillers and/or additives, and e) 0 to 40 wt.% of pigment, wherein the total amount of components a) to e) adds up to 100 wt.%,

[vi)] ii) heating said hot melt composition to a temperature in the range from 40 to 150°C,

iii) applying said hot melt composition to the substrate in the form of a coating or thin film, and

[vi)] iv) curing said hot melt to a non-tacky coating solely by exposing the coated substrate to electromagnetic radiation having a wavelength  $\lambda \leq 500$  nm.

17. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 16, wherein the hot melt composition further comprises a UV curable polyurethane acrylate resin and/or a UV curable epoxy acrylate resin.